

SPRINGWOOD WATERWAY
APRIL & MAY 2014 - LAKE BIOASSESSMENT

Greetings Springwood Waterway residents,

Please find the latest bioassessment report for your lake below. The next scheduled inspection of your lake will be **July 1st**; weather permitting. Key highlights of this update include:

- Hydrilla update- decrease observed for the waterways
- Status of Submersed Aquatic Vegetation (SAV)
- Status of shoreline emergent vegetation
- Hand removal of torpedo grass that is mixed in with natives
- Recommendations for you and your lake

On **April 8th, 2014**, Seminole County Lake Management Program (SCLMP) staff, Thomas Calhoun and Joey Cordell, surveyed the aquatic plants of **Springwood Waterway**.

Treatment for hydrilla was conducted Thursday, March 20th in the back half of the waterway. During the inspection hydrilla was showing signs of impact from the treatment. We will continue to monitor hydrilla to see if any further actions will be necessary. The waterway was observed open and navigable therefore mechanical harvesting is not needed at this time.

Photo: Hydrilla showing impacts of treatment.



Native emergent vegetation is doing very well throughout the waterway and is recovering/expanding from the “winter die back”. Sites from the June 29th restoration event have established and are beginning to expand very nicely. Kudos to all who have made this so successful!

Photo: Pickerelweed showing “winter die back” (left). Recovered/expanding vegetation (right).



On May 6th, 2014, Seminole County Lake Management Program (SCLMP) staff, Thomas Calhoun and Gloria Eby, with Stephen Fussell (Seminole County’s Office of Organizational Development), surveyed the aquatic plants of **Springwood Waterway**.

Treatment for hydrilla was conducted Thursday, March 20th in the back half of the waterway. All hydrilla found during this inspection was heavily impacted by the treatment and is anticipated to die. We will continue to monitor hydrilla to see if any further actions will be necessary.

Photo: Hydrilla showing impacts of treatment.



Native SAV is expanding in the waterway. These species includes lemon bacopa, stonewort, and bladderwort. Lemon bacopa has expanded along the majority of the banks within the waterway and is reaching the surface in many areas. The waterway was observed open and navigable therefore mechanical harvesting is not needed at this time.

Photo: Lemon bacopa.



Native emergent vegetation continues to be found in many locations, in good condition, and expanding! The exotic vegetation, such as torpedo grass, alligator weed and elephant ear, will continue to be targeted by the MSBU funded herbicide contractor. As native emergent plants expand, we recommend hand removing any torpedo grass that is found mixed within.

Photo: Example of torpedo grass (highlighted) mixed in with duck potato.



Recommendations for you and your waterbody:

- 1 Work together with other lakefront owners. Have *at least* one annual lake association meeting, invite guest speakers (such as Seminole County or state biologists) and discuss lake-specific issues, especially nutrients/lake management recommendations. SCLMP staff would be glad to present our findings from this and other surveys. Also continue to increase native aquatic plantings along the shoreline (such as pickerelweed, duck potato, and canna).
- 2 Consider increasing street sweeping services during times of peak leaf fall to ensure that this debris does not enter your waterways. Leaf debris contains phosphorous that can negatively impact your waterbody.
- 3 Take advantage of free educational outreach programs i.e. Shoreline Restoration Workshops (planting days), Florida Yards and Neighborhoods (FYN), Lake Management Video mail-outs, and presentations on decreasing “pointless personal pollution” by reducing fertilizer use and only

using phosphorous-free fertilizers. Contact Seminole County Lake Management Program (407) 665-2439 to inquire about the availability of these programs. You can also visit the Water Atlas (<http://www.seminole.wateratlas.usf.edu/>) to read interesting information about your specific waterway, and our website (http://www.seminolecountyfl.gov/pw/roadstorm/wq_lakemgt.aspx) to watch educational videos and download lake management pamphlets.

4 Share what YOU know with your neighbors! Encourage fellow residents to keep a functional shoreline with beneficial native aquatic plants, and to keep grass clippings out of the stormdrains that lead to the lake. All of these activities aid in protecting your waterbody! Please share this newsletter with any new residents or those not currently on our email list. These assessments contain valuable information!

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